Internet Dhabas in Karnataka

*549. SHRI K. C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Internet Dhabas have been set up in Karnataka; and

(b) if not, whether Government would take steps to install Internet Dhabas in rural areas of Karnataka by offering concessions and incentives?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) Internet Dhabas have been set up in Karnataka and the following incentives are being offered to the Internet Dhaba franchises:

(i) Quick provision of telephone lines for Internet connection,

(ii) Unlimited free Internet access for the rural Block Headquarters,

(iii) 1500 hrs. per annum free Internet access in urban Block Headquarters,

(iv) In addition, commission @ 25% of the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) access charges.

Problems faced by Exporters

*550. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Exporters demand level playing field" which appeared in the Newstime dated the 26th March, 2001;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to address the problems faced by the exporters as highlighted in the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) The issues reported in the news-item have been examined by the Government and appropriate action wherever necessary has been